

14 June 1993

MEMORANDUM

TO: Files

FROM: Carol Kawachi, Archaeologist
Inter-Agency Section
Archaeology Branch
State Historic Preservation Division

SUBJECT: Preliminary Site Visit
Division of Water and Land Development
Job No. 32-ML-B `Ilio Point Security Fencing Project
Kaluako`i, Moloka`i
TMK: 5-1-02: 06

The Division of Water and Land Development invited Carol Kawachi, inter-agency archaeologist, on their `Ilio Point Security Fencing project site inspection trip 8 June 1993. She joined five contractors who were doing a field inspection in preparation for bidding on the fencing project

Jim Johnson (DOWALD Maui), Kief Apo and Mike Mangco (DOCARE) and Guy Nagai (DOA) met everyone at Moloka`i Airport. They also served as drivers

The road to the site is owned by and runs through Moloka`i Ranch lands. Most of the 8 miles (12.9km) (approximately) to the project site from Mauna Loa Highway (Figure 1) was a passable dirt road. There was a downhill/uphill stretch for about a mile which was greatly eroded with exposed bedrock and immovable boulders. An abandoned waterline parallels the road and several water troughs were seen along the way. Approximately two-thirds of the drive was through rolling pasture land covered with low grass and lantana. Part of the pasture land was covered in Formosan Koa where there were less denuded areas. The last third just before the project site was through rocky hills and kiawe forests.

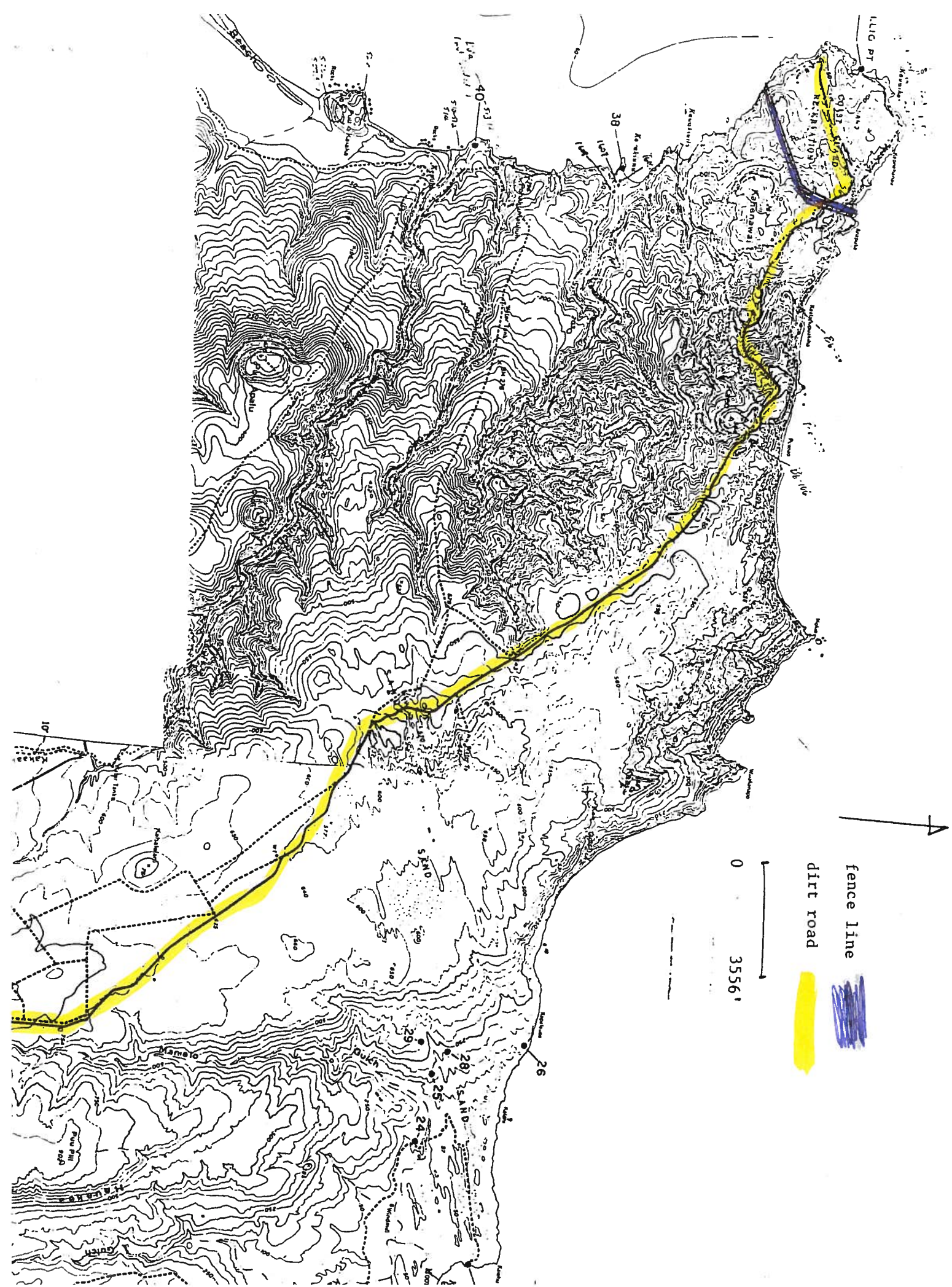
Approaching the project site, the soil changed to sand. The northern section of the fence line is in an open area of lithified sand with clumps of kiawe bushes on what appears to be uplifted coral. The northernmost section of the fence line drops down the rocky outcrop to the shore. An eroding area of bedrock just west of the fence line a short distance inland was investigated. Beyond a large kiawe bush, the inland section was not investigated due to time constraints.

The drive from the northern section to the southern section of the fence line was through koa haole and kiawe on a sandy road to the abandoned concrete block

buildings, surrounded by koa haole, kiawe and lantana, remains of the Coast Guard presence.

There were two fence lines on the southern end. Arriving late and unaware of that fact, I followed the first fence line only to learn that the contractors had gone to see the southernmost one. According to Jim, he wasn't sure which was the proper fence line nor that the fence line had been surveyed. He did mention that sections of the second fence line were clear whereas the one I followed was thick in kiawe, koa haole and lantana. It was difficult to walk through without getting caught by the thorns. Evidence of deer were seen in droppings and trails.

A more intensive and extensive archaeological survey will need to be made not only of the fence line but in the areas which will be impacted by equipment, storage, turn around, etc. A botanical survey will also be done by Forestry and Wildlife of the same area. Ms. Kawachi is in contact with Ms. Lee regarding these matters.





STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
Kakuhihewa Building, Room 666
601 Kamokila Boulevard
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

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FAX TRANSMITTAL

To: Betsy Gagne Fax: 587-0064
NARS

From: Holly McElDowney Tel: (808) 692-8028
State Historic Preservation Division Fax: (808) 692-8020

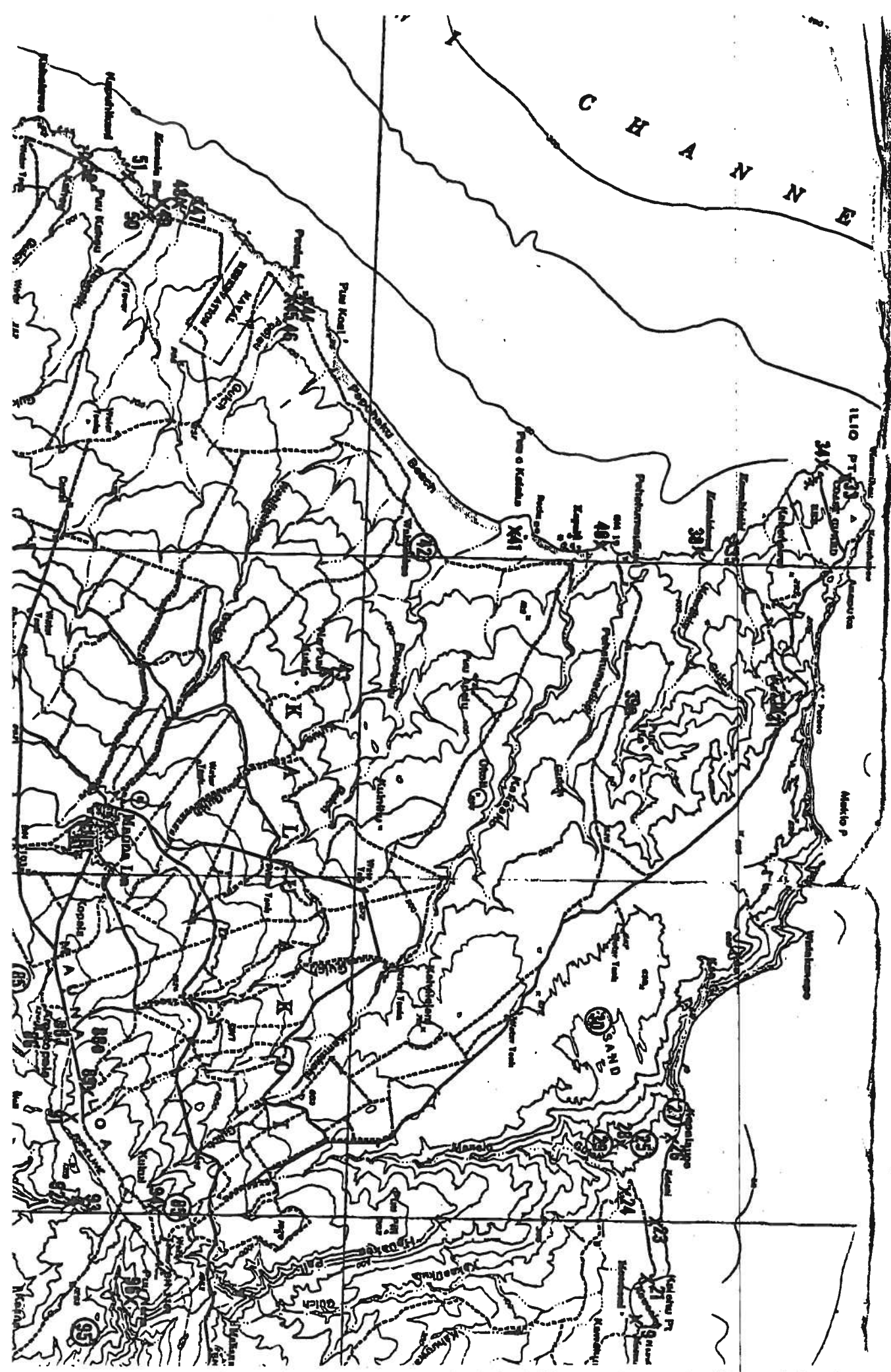
Date: Nov. 28, 2001

Regarding: Ilio Point

Comments: Sara said you can call her for wording
suggestions on the EA.

pages faxed, including transmittal: 7

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KONA DISTRICT

Formerly the island of Molokai was divided into two districts, Ko'olau on the northeastern side and Kona on the western half and southeastern portion (see p. 2). They were separated by the crest of a mountain range, many of whose ridges on its northern side terminate in towering cliffs.

The Kona District covered approximately three-quarters of the island. Its eastern portion consisted of fertile gulches and valleys where wet-land taro was grown. The middle section, which lay between the eastern mountains and the mountain of Maunaloa, was a rolling plain ribbed by small gulches. There, there were extensive plantings of sweet potatoes (see p. 37). The western portion, Kaluako'i, was dry and arid, and had but a small population which grew sweet potatoes and fished in its coastal waters. An old resident of Molokai summed up the general food situation of Kona with the statement, "East Molokai--taro and fish; west Molokai--sweet potatoes and fish" (Phelps, n.d.:56).

A feature of the Kona District which is not found in Ko'olau is the extensive shoal waters off the southern shore. Here were built the numerous fishponds which provided their owners a year-round supply of fish. A native writer commenting about the ponds said, "These were built by men who worked under the chiefs, several hundred years ago. Their work was very solid" (Keola, 1893a, May 23).

Kamakau described Kaluako'i as "...a desolate land, a land of famine" (1961:37).

After his survey in 1909, Stokes concluded that, "This part of the island [Kaluako'i] does not give any evidence of a dense population...It is probable that formerly, as now, coasts were periodically visited by the inhabitants of the rest of the island for the purpose of fishing, the waters there yielding very abundantly" (n.d.h).

Bonk came to a similar conclusion after his 1954 excavations in West Molokai:

...the contents of the sites excavated bear out what we had every reason to expect, that this was a decidedly marginal land for the inhabitants of Molokai. Fishing and the quest for adze stone brought people into the area, and fighting probably sent refugees into it, but temporarily. The small population of Molokai must have found ample room on the richly watered and larger land of east Molokai. Only a few fisherman families seem to have found it worth while to build homes on west Molokai (n.d.a:139).

There are few major sites, such as heiau and fishponds, in Kaluako'i, although there are numerous *ko'a*. Most of the house sites are found in groups at the mouths of the gulches near the beach. The chief foods of these people were the sweet potato and fish. The southern shore appears to have had the largest population.

Information about Kaluako'i is difficult to obtain. "The inhabitants of the western end of Molokai deserted or were removed from their homes nearly half a century ago..." (Stokes, n.d.a:30). In 1848 Kaluako'i became Government Land and, with the removal of the inhabitants, most of the place names and its history were lost. We do know, however, that Maunaloa was important to the ancient Hawaiians because of its adz quarries. It also had legendary importance as being the origin of Kalaipahoa (Site 88), and of the beginning of the hula school (Site 95).

Tradition locates *Ka alapupu i Moloka'i* (The shell road at Molokai) as being in Kaluako'i. It was constructed by Kiha-a-Pi'ilani, who lived at the beginning of the 16th century. Manu (1884a) said the "road" was "...on the depression (*ka pu'ali*) of Kaluako'i, from the dry hot shore of 'Iloli and turning on the far side of the sands of Mo'omomi..." In a later account, he wrote:

This road was made by arranging the rocks and there also the shells of the sea which were placed on top of the rocks on the border of the road. If a person or several people perhaps traveled this road in the dark, then, the white of these shells which dotted the edge of this road and the part between where they traveled could be plainly seen, and this is the thing that made the road clear at Kaluako'i, the only place where this shell road was made. This road did not reach as far as the places of 'Iloli and Pala'au. It is the one which is called by the name, "*Ka alapupu i Moloka'i*." This was the chief Kihapi'ilani's last act which made his name famous from the time when he was reigning chief of Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i and Ka-ho'olawe until this new era (Manu, 1884b).

Tradition also credits 'Ai'ai, son of Ku'ula, as having established a fishing station between Kalaeoka'ilio and Kalaeokala'au, where "...a tree grew out from under a rock, Ekaha by name [*'ekaha ku moana*, black coral]. It is a hardwood tree, but the trunk and also the branches are without leaves. This place is a great haunt for fishermen with their hooks" (Thrum, 1907: 240).

MO'OMOMI, KALUAKO'I

Mo'omomi is an area of land which extends about 2 miles along the seashore from a little E of Na'aukahihi in Pala'au 2 to Kalani in Kaluako'i, and inland a mile or two. The area is mostly sand and sand dunes. The Kuapa is the wind of Mo'omomi.

The area was used for fishing and for quarrying the stone for making adzes. Here, in 1952, six archaeological sites were excavated under the direction of Bishop Museum staff; four of them were bluff shelters, one a house site, and one a camping ground. Two of the shelters (Sites 23 and 28) were used by adz makers, and the other two (Sites 21 and 26) by fishermen.

erations of etched surfaces. The first appears to have been developed on fragments of the adze rock which were dropped by the earlier carriers. Chips were then broken off these pieces as they were utilized by later generations for adzes. These chips are in turn etched by the wind-driven sand on the fresher faces. There is a distinct difference between the older and newer etched faces.

* * *

The more recent activities of stone working Hawaiians are no more than 100 years in the past, but the testimony of different stages in the etching of artifact chips is to the effect that the earlier Hawaiian work here may be several hundred or a thousand years old (Wentworth, 1925:53, 54, 56).

SITE 30. BURIALS AT KEONELELE, KALUAKO'I

Keonelele, "the flying sand," is a desert strip of land beginning at Mo'omomi and extending W to Kaka'ako Gulch near Okoli ('Okole?) Hill.

The area was described in detail by Wentworth (1925). Keonelele was said to have been a "large burial place" (*Hawai'i Holomua*, 1893). Emory removed 14 complete and four incomplete Hawaiian skulls (Bishop Museum Accession No. 94) from "...the lee side of a large sand hill in the middle of the Moomomi sand belt and one-half a mile from the highest sand hills on the north" (Emory, n.d.b:Mar 2). He estimated that there were at least 60 burials located here and, on the slopes of the hill to the N, at least 25 burials.

...There were more than forty burials exposed. The five skeletons which I examined carefully had the legs and arms flexed, hands under chin, and all lay on their backs with the exception of one in an upright position. There was no orientation common to them. I found no trace of markers for these graves or any object which was meant to accompany the burial. There were only clean, well preserved bones (Emory, 1924: 74).

The skulls that Emory removed were those of Hawaiians; Cooke, however, was told that Chinese were buried in this area.

...there are many skeletons buried in a sandhill about a quarter of a mile from where the road to Ka Lae o ka Ilio crosses the drifting sands. These are the remains of Chinese coolies who were being transported by sailing vessel from China to the west coast of South America. Their ship was wrecked near Kamakaipo. Those who escaped inland died of hunger and thirst. Their bodies were collected by the Hawaiians and buried in the sandhills. This was told to me by John Puaa, a former luna (foreman) of our ranch (Cooke, 1949:107).

Besides finding artifacts in this area in 1922, Emory noted two piles of water-worn stones about 200 yards apart; one pile contained 18 stones, the other eight (n.d.b:Mar 2). Cartwright (n.d.b) reported many sling stones as having been found in the Keonelele area.

SITE 31. HEIAU AT KA'EO HILL, KALUAKO'I

The site is occupied by Kao A on top of the hill. Stokes wrote of this site: "I was guided to this hill to be shown a heiau foundation, but the fragmentary platform pointed out seemed to be a natural outcropping of stone due to erosion" (n.d.a:28).

SITE 32. ADZ QUARRY AT KA'EO HILL, KALUAKO'I

MacDonald described an adz quarry on the hill as being "...a thin flow of dense lava" (Stearns and MacDonald, 1947:Plate 2).

KALAEOKA'ILIO, KALUAKO'I

Keawelakai, a demigod from Kahiki, is said to have been a resident of Kalaeoka'ilio, Molokai's most NW point of land. As N. B. Emerson wrote, "He was extravagantly fond of the ocean and allowed no weather to interfere with the indulgence of his penchant. An epithet applied to him describes his dominating passion: *Keawe moe i ke kai o Kohakū*, Keawe who sleeps in (or on) the sea of Kohakū" (1909:75, footnote).

SITE 33. KO'A AT KALAEOKA'ILIO, KALUAKO'I (Fig. 9)

This site is located on the N side of Kawaihau Bay. Stokes described it in some detail:

The ko'a is situated on the level cliff...which is here about 65 feet above sea level. The ground in this vicinity is composed of lime sand, indurated in strata in the upper portion and somewhat loose underneath. It rests on basalt which reached a few feet above sea level. As might be expected, the cliffs are continually being undermined. The diminutive ko'a (measuring 11 by 9 feet on the outside) showed remarkably neat workmanship and unusual material. The walls of the enclosure were faced inside and out with somewhat squarely broken slabs of lime-stone sand...and paved on top with other slabs of the same material. The walls varied in width from 1.25 to 2.5 feet, and the height, as shown by a portion at the north-west in its original condition, was 3 feet. The slabs averaged 4 inches in thickness, and were probably obtained from the edge of the cliff where the strata were easily broken.

The southern wall, which was 1.2 feet thick was of the same average height, and seemed to have had a narrow entrance in the middle. However, on account of its disturbed condition, I cannot state that the present height or an entrance belonged there originally. The floor was paved with the stone slabs, but has been disturbed. There are three ala stones lying on the pavement in a median line beginning on the east and extending just beyond the middle of the enclosure. The largest is long and sub-cylindrical, while the other two are flat. It would seem as if the long stone had originally been erected in the middle of the enclosure, as the fish god (such stones were extensively used for the purpose) and the flat ala touching it on its eastern side served as an offertorium [Fig. 9]. The other flat ala near the wall, may have been another offertorium.* There was a fourth ala lying on the ground outside the walls and on the south. It had originally been long and sub-cylindrical, but had been broken, at one time, perhaps it had been unlucky for [sic] its votary and he had reacted in the usual way. There were many fragments of fish bones among the stones on the floor (Stokes, n.d.a:29).

SITE 34. EXCAVATION SITE 'ILIO, KALUAKO'I

The site is a bluff shelter located 20 ft below the top of the cliffs on the S side of Kalaeoka'ilio Point, at the intersection of talus and cliff. Because the entrance faces toward the W, the shelter is completely protected from the elements except in the late afternoon, when there is little shade. The shelter is 22 ft wide and 10 ft deep, and has a maximum height of 4.9 ft. Numerous sandstone slabs were scattered about. Excavation revealed two layers: the top layer averaged 3 in. in depth and was sterile; the lower layer varied from 2 to 20 in. in depth. The site was used primarily by fishermen.

For a detailed description of the site and its excavation, see Bonk (n.d.a:44-47).

SITE 35. KO'A AT KAWAKIUIKI BAY, KALUAKO'I

This site is located in the SE corner of the bay. Stokes wrote of this structure: "A small pavement following the contour of the ground, which declines to the north. Its measurements are

* W.T. Brigham believed these stones to be *pohaku 'aho* (cylindrical stones, not necessarily carved, which sometimes represented a god). He said that they "...were common on this part of Molokai, and indeed on other islands of the group on sea cliffs" (Stokes, n.d.a:29, footnote).



(Photo by Stokes, 1909)

Figure 9. INTERIOR OF KO'A AT KALAEOKA'ILIO (Site 33). View from the S showing slab facing and long 'ala stone next to the "offertorium."

2.5 by 8.5 feet, the longer axis north and south. It is bordered with large water-worn stones and filled in with smaller stones of the same formation" (n.d.a:29-30).

SITE 36. KO'A AT KAWAKIUNUI BAY, KALUAKO'I

The structure was on a low cliff on the S point of Kawakiunui Bay. By 1909 it had partly fallen into the sea (Stokes, n.d.a:30), and there are no remains of it now.

SITE 37. KO'A AT KAWAKIUNUI BAY, KALUAKO'I (Fig. 10)

The site, located at about the middle of the point on the S side of the bay, was destroyed by the 1946 tsunami. Stokes, however, had seen it in 1909 and wrote:

This ko'a was a circular, approximately flat boulder, 6 feet in diameter and 2 feet high. Piled on it to the height of another three feet were stones ranging in size from 9 to 12 inches in diameter, and roughly levelled off on top. A man, whom my guides referred to as a priest, was said to have had charge of it. His residence was in an enclosure about 200 feet to the east [Site 38?]. In this enclosure we came across a human female skeleton (n.d.a:30).

SITE 38. HEIAU AT KAWAKIUNUI BAY, KALUAKO'I (Fig. 11)

The structure is located to the E of Site 37 on the S point of Kawakiunui Bay. Large stone slabs on edge or on end are in the first course of the wall. There is one large limestone slab on end in the first course of the S wall. The upper stones are mostly water-worn. Large pieces of branch coral are found throughout the heiau. Fifty ft N of the N corner is a large grindstone (Emory, n.d.o:Jun 28).

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